

Ancestry Library Edition

Family History Month October 2007

Gloriane Peck Special Collections Librarian





What's Available

- Census records
- Passenger and immigration lists and indexes
- Vital records
- Military records
- Social Security Death Index
- U.S. Public Records Index



What's Not Available

- Not everything is online
 - Many abstracts and indexes in Ancestry refer to other, print sources
 - Check elsewhere for these sources
- Complete indexing
 - Errors possible
- PERSI is available in HeritageQuest
 - Periodical Source Index



Information Sources

- Pay attention to the source
 - Is it authoritative? Can you trust it as proof?
- Primary source:
 - Created at time of the event by those involved.
- Secondary source:
 - Any sources in print that do not come from a contemporary or government record.
- Note where you find information in case you need to return to that source.



Getting Started

- Name of head of household?
 - Some indexes list only the head
- Who else in the family are you aware of?
- What time and area did they live in?
 - Where did life events occur?
- Helpful to start with the most recent information and work backward



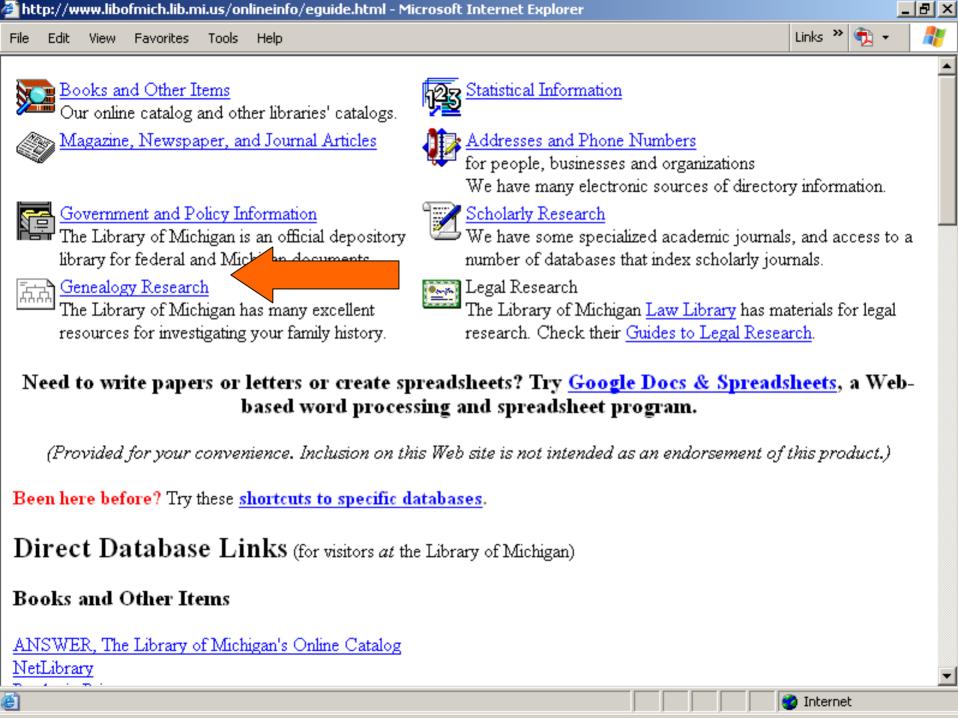
Don't Know Where to Start?

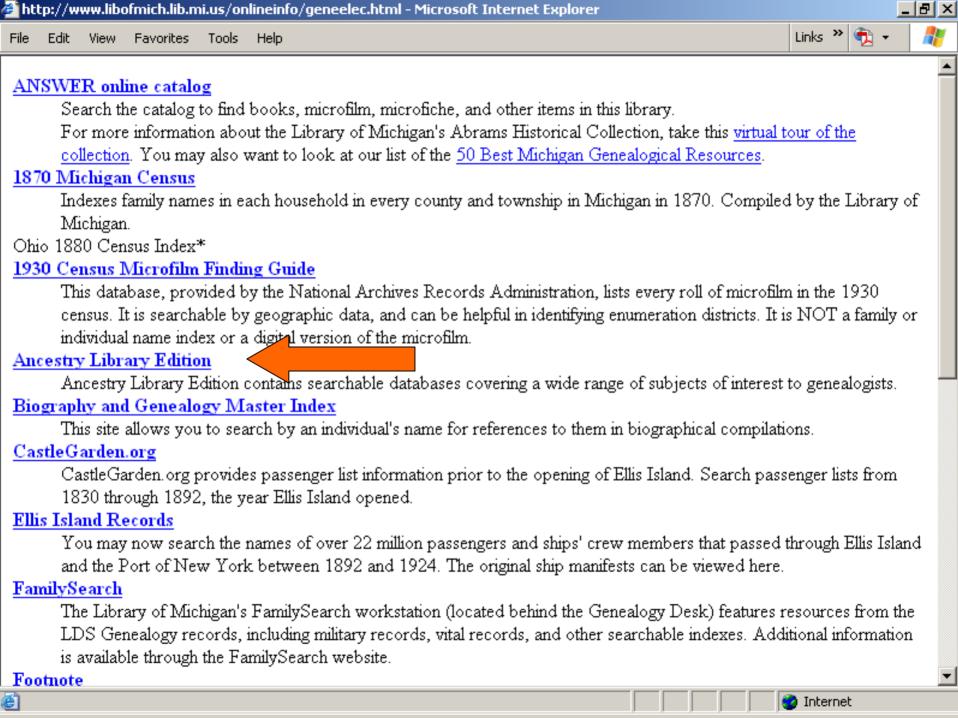
- If you don't know the place or year of an event, try using census records, obituaries or other sources to narrow down this information.
- Read database descriptions
 - Coverage information
 - Counties or places
 - Time period
 - Source information

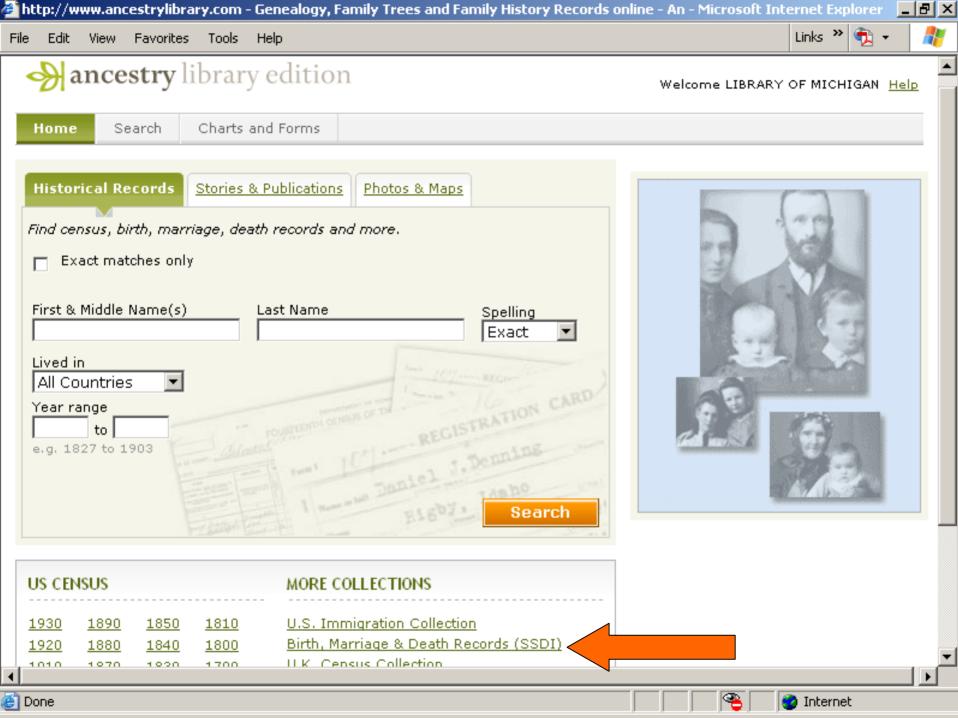


Accessing Ancestry Library Edition

- Here at the Library of Michigan
- At some Michigan libraries
 - Check with individual libraries
- Ancestry Library Edition vs. Ancestry.com



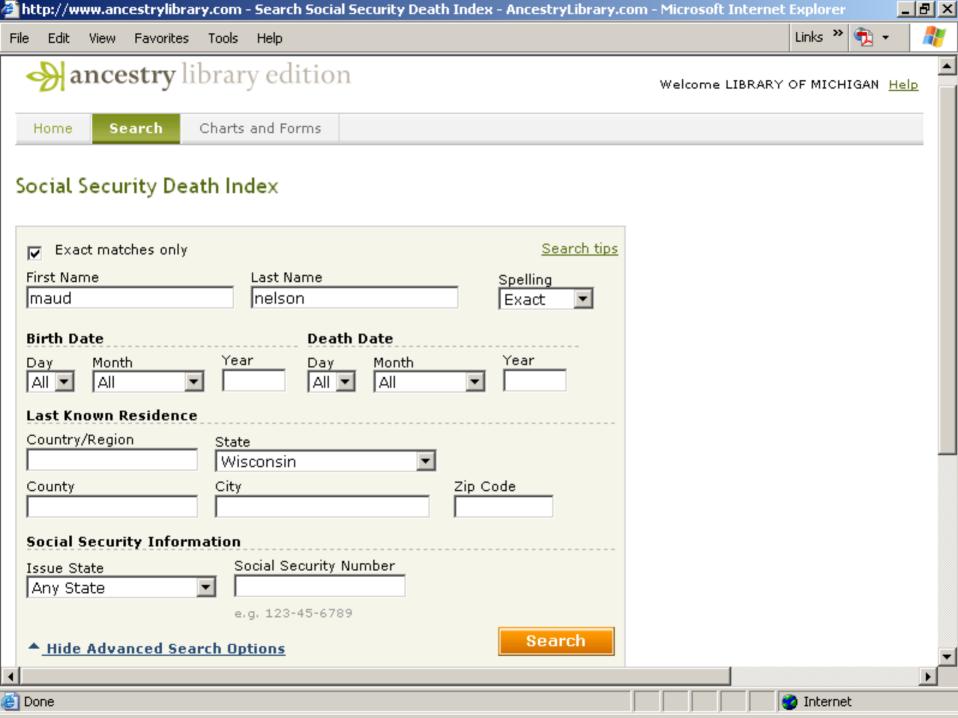


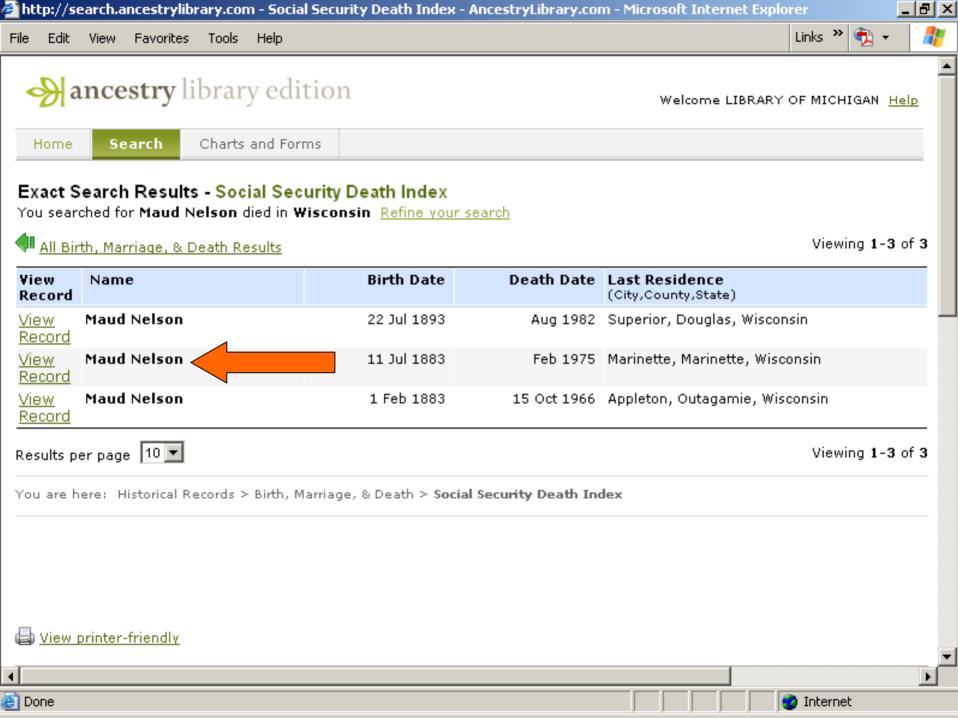




Social Security Death Index

- Good starting point
 - Approximate death date
 - Month and year
 - Place of death
 - Birth date
- You may want to request a copy of the Social Security application









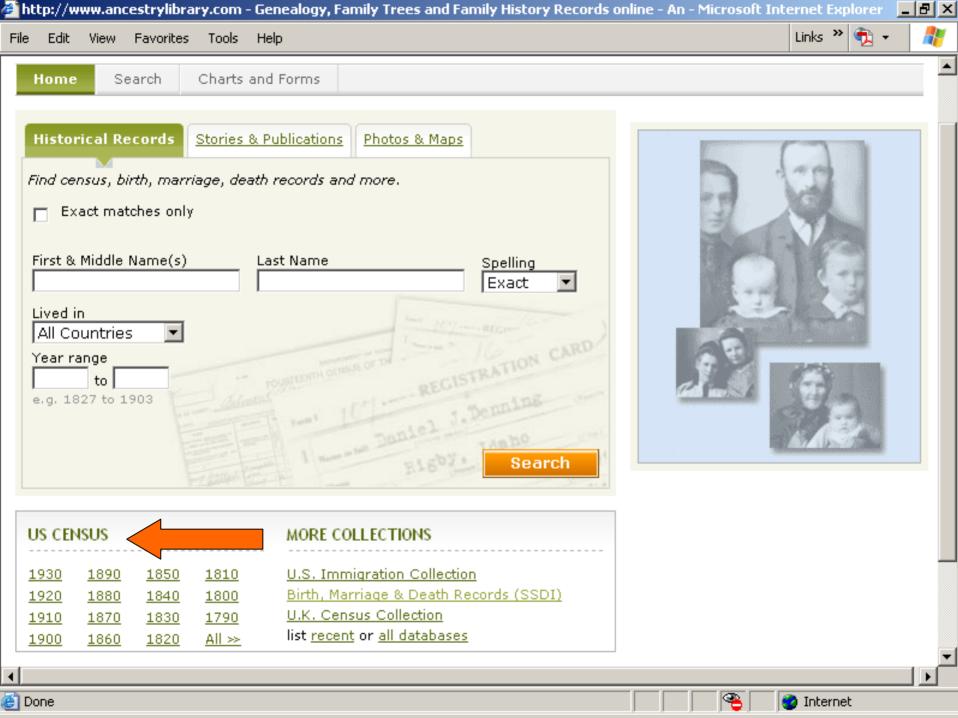
Why the Census?

- Locate your ancestors in a particular time and place.
- Track their life events:
 - Births of children
 - Moves
- Learn more about their lives.
- It's a primary source for genealogy.
 - A guide to further research.



Information on the Census

- Head of household listed in every census
 Also race and sex
- Starting in 1850: Name, birthplace, occupation for each member of household
- Starting in 1880: Parents' birthplace, relationship to head of household
- 1840, 1910, 1930: Military service
- 1850-1930: Marital status
- 1900-1930: Citizenship

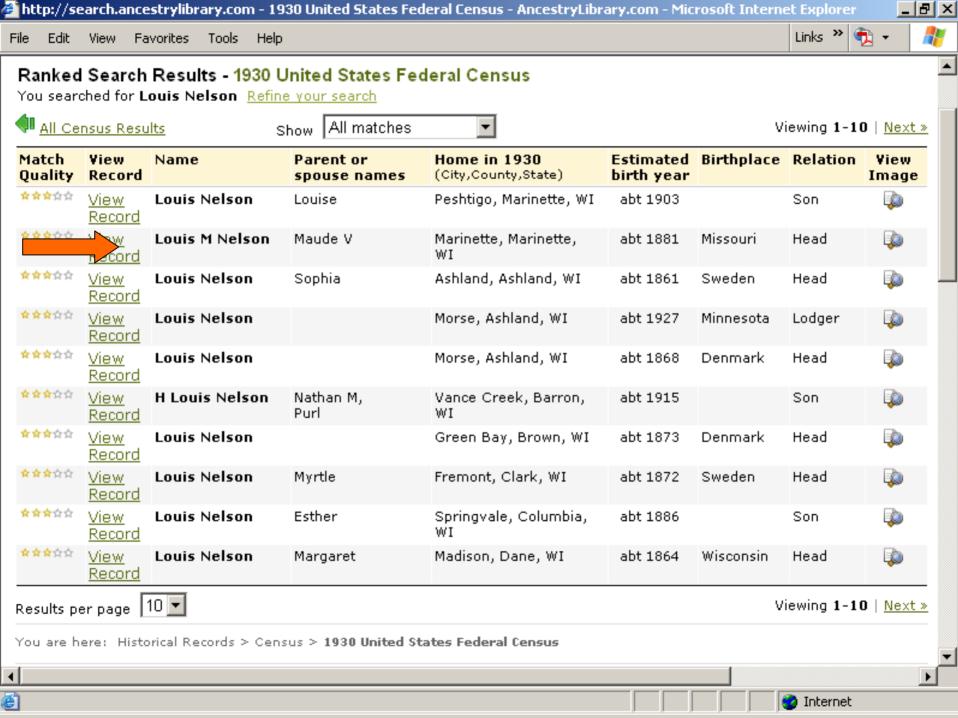


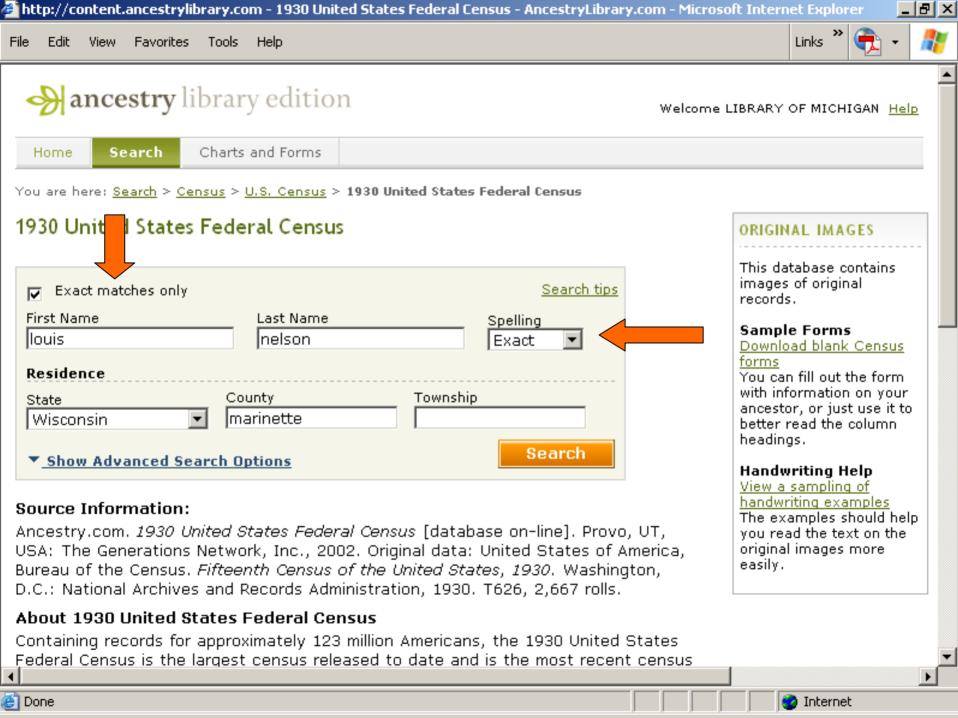


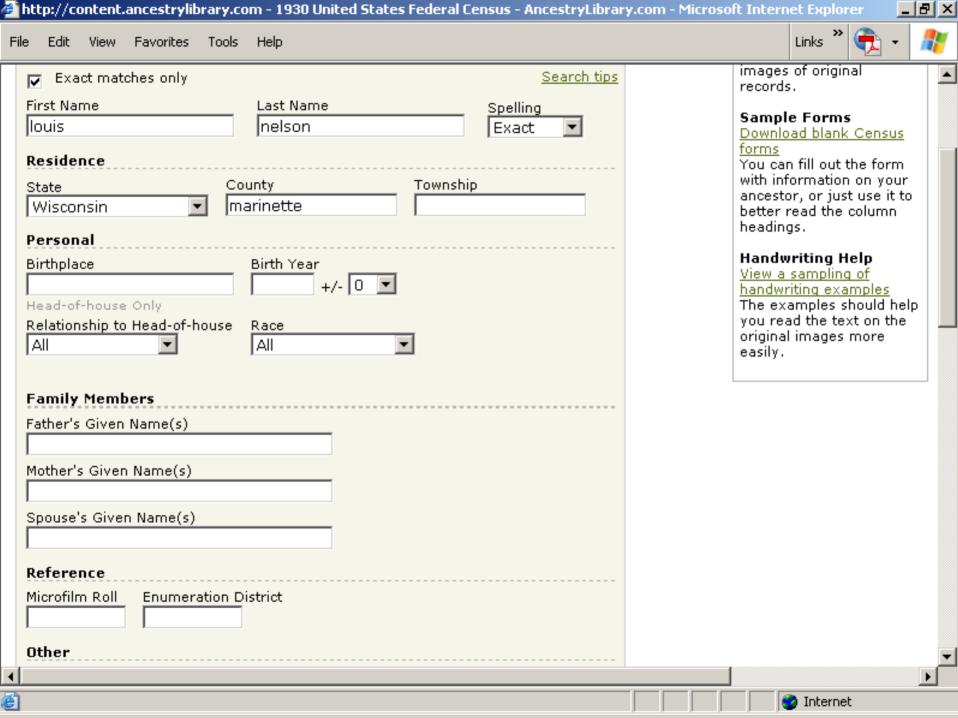
Search Tips

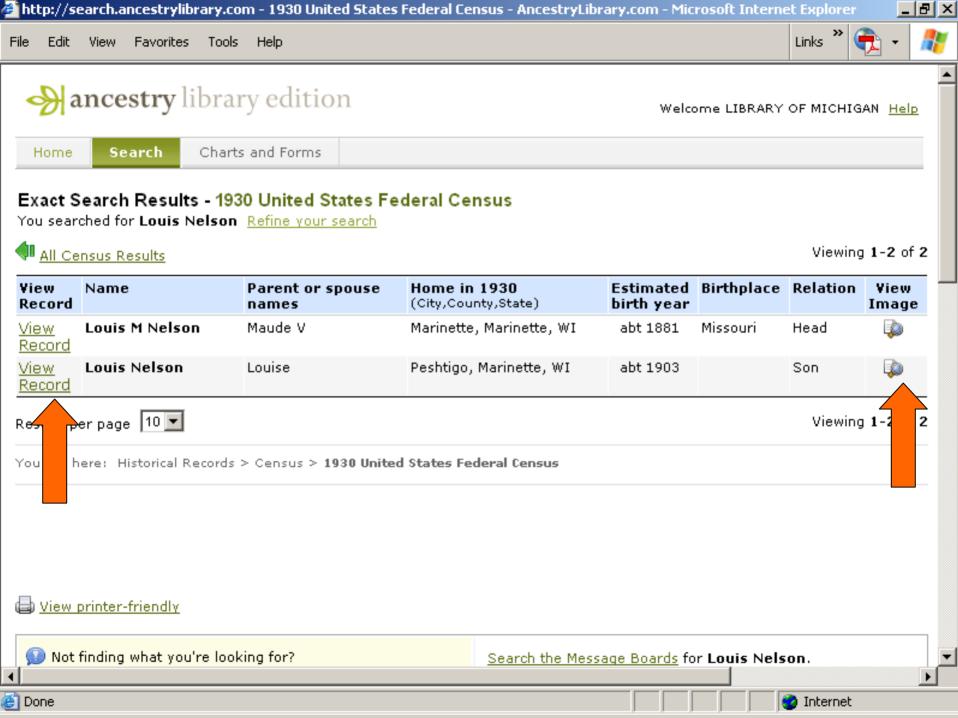
- Select only the database you want to search.
 - Often allows for more customization.
 - Gives you fewer results, meaning less information to sort through to get what you want.
 - Can be more exact and precise
- Soundex vs. Exact spelling option

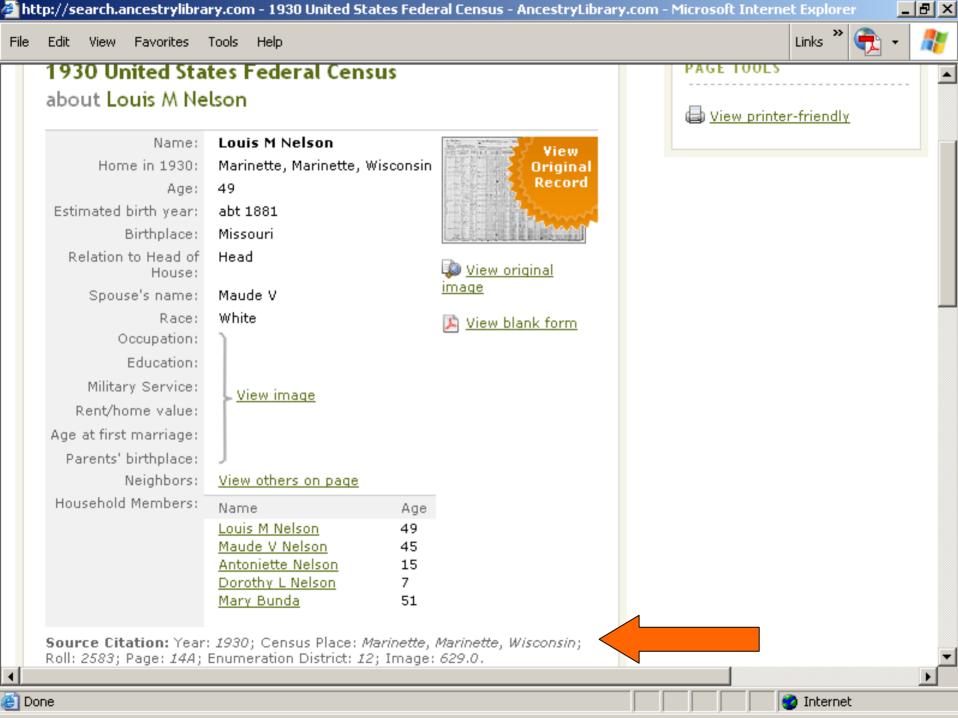














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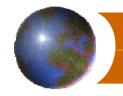
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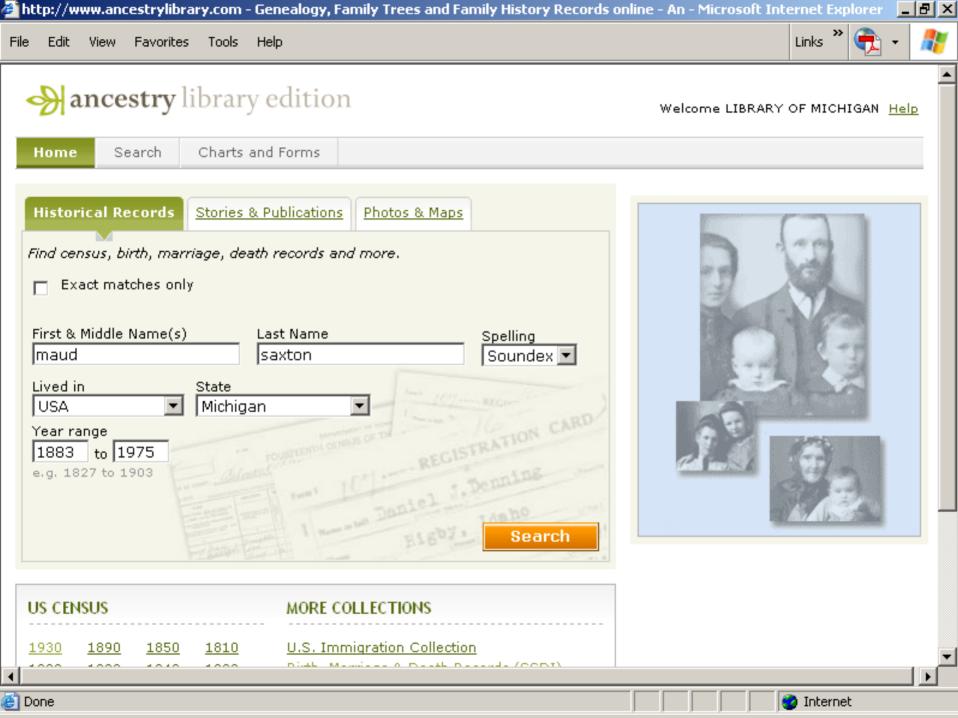
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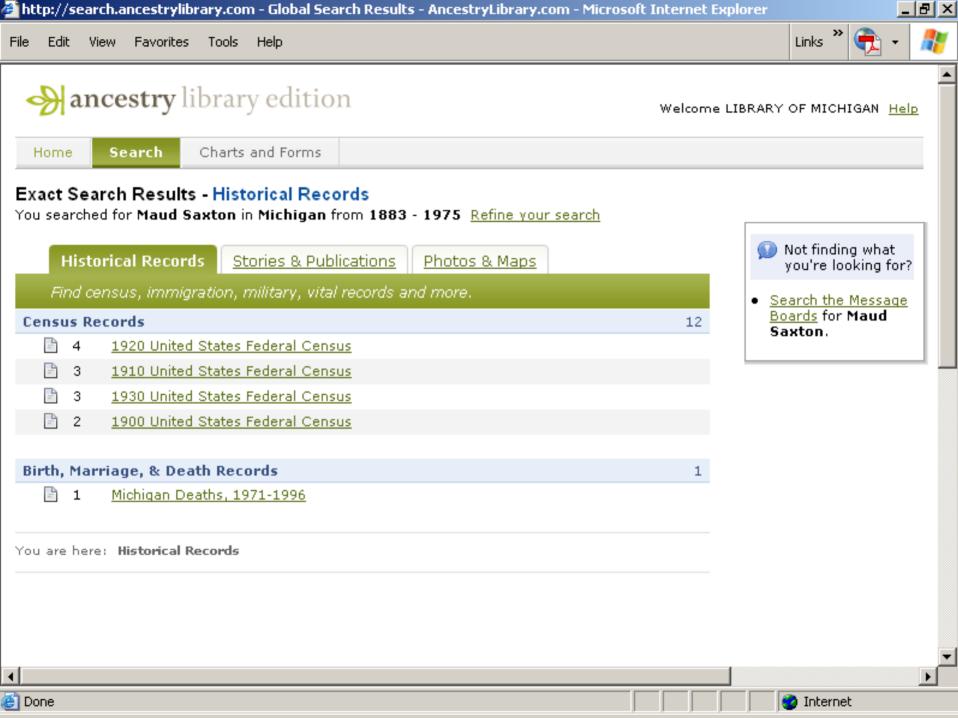


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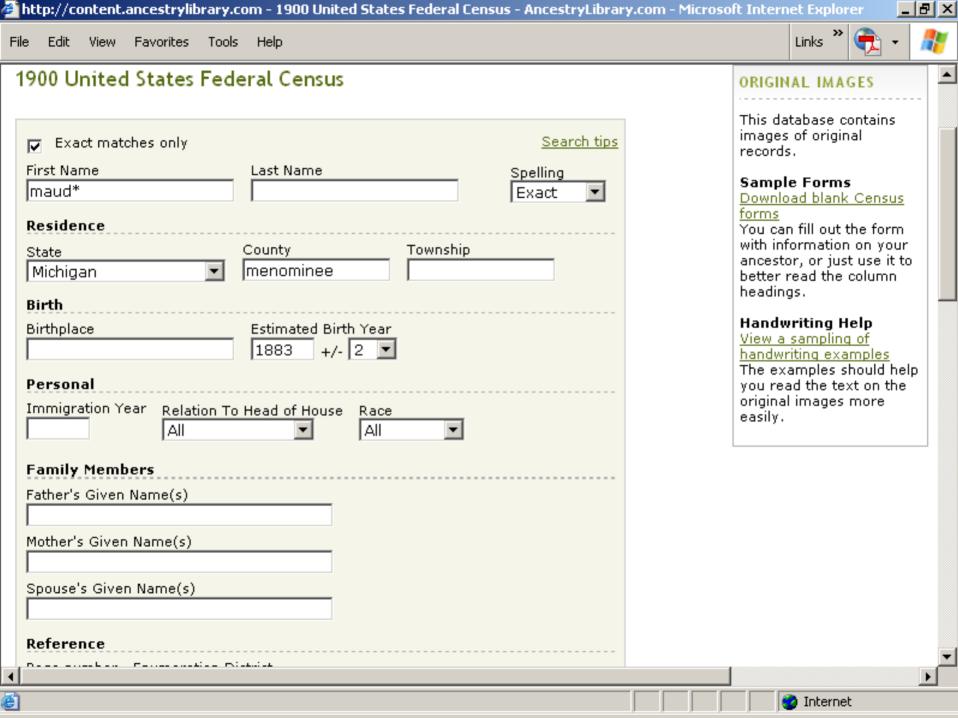


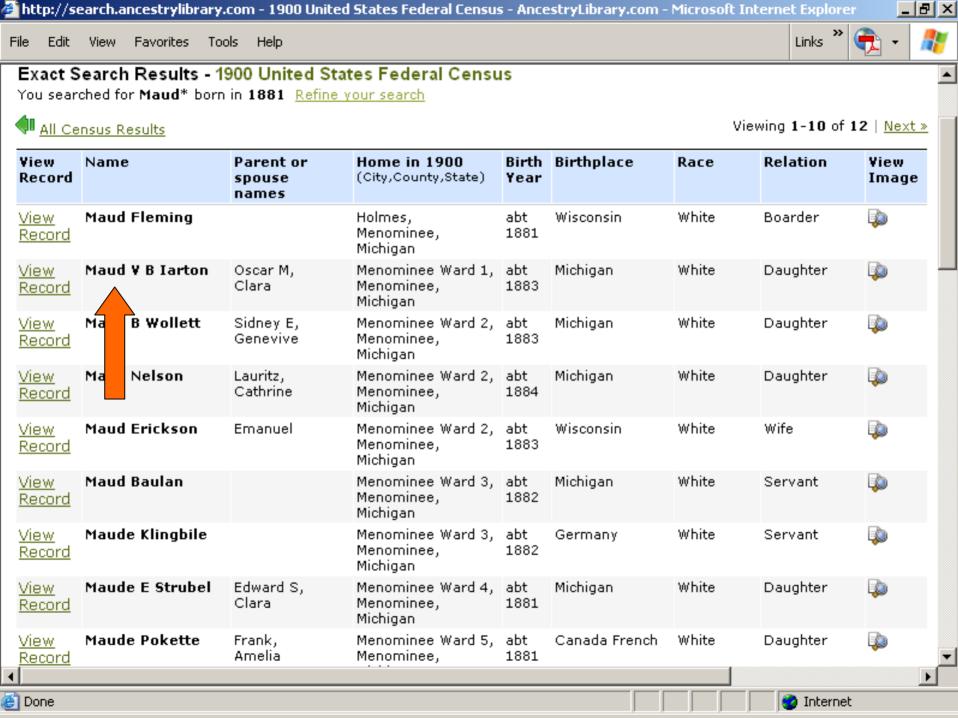




Search Tips

- Try different spellings for first, last names.
 - Maud Nelson could be Maude Nelsen
- Broaden your search
 - Remove a specific place name or open up the date range.
- If you don't know a woman's married name, try using other details to access her information.
 - This also is helpful in times of extreme misspellings or typos in indexing.





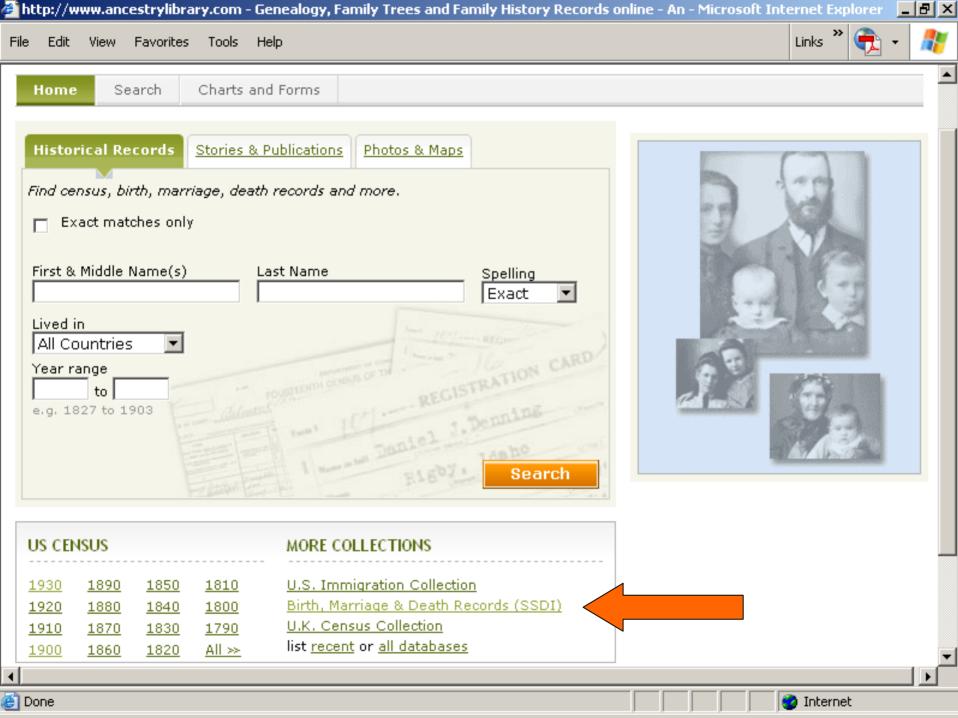


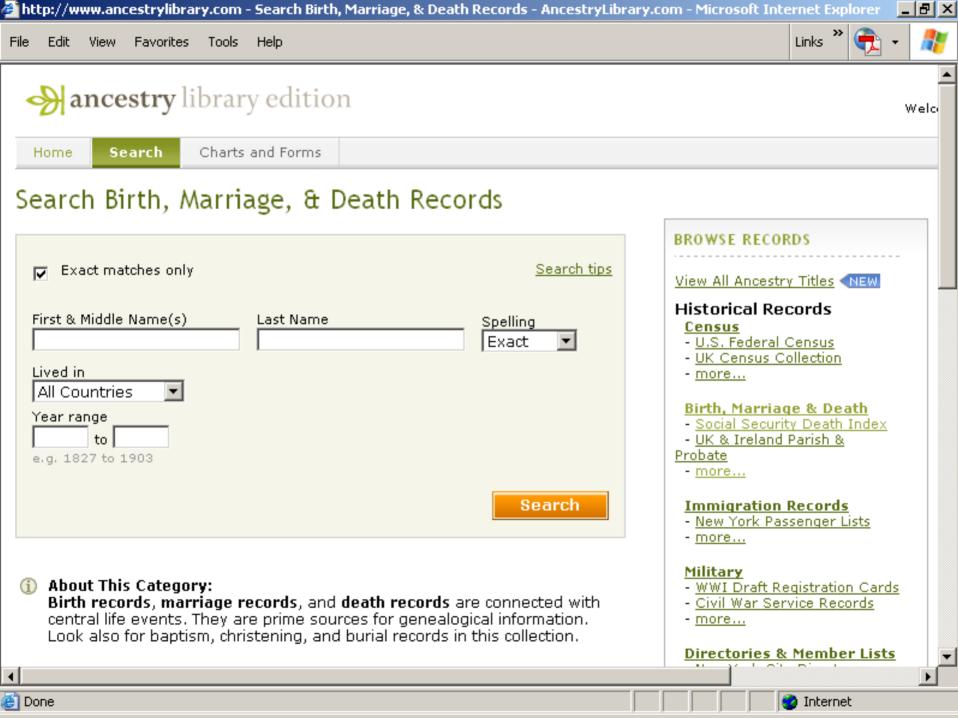


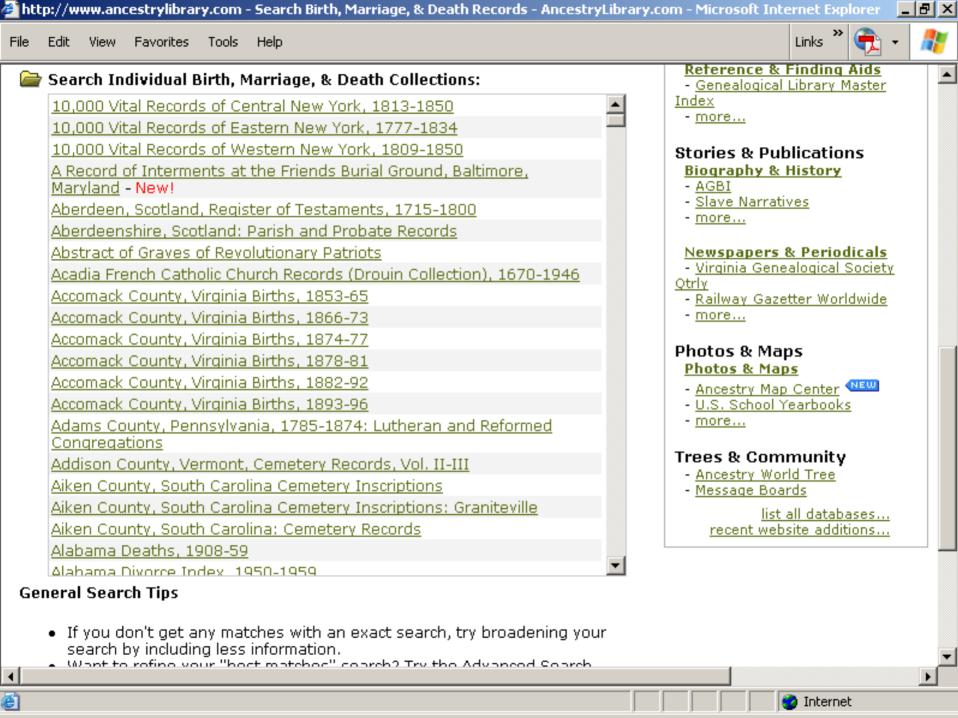
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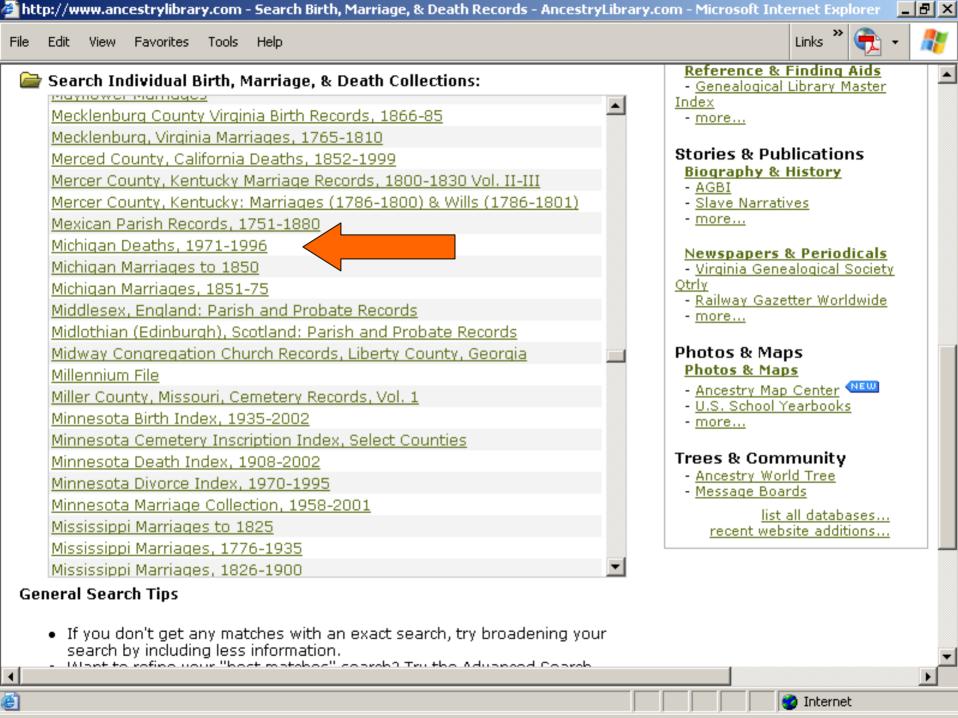


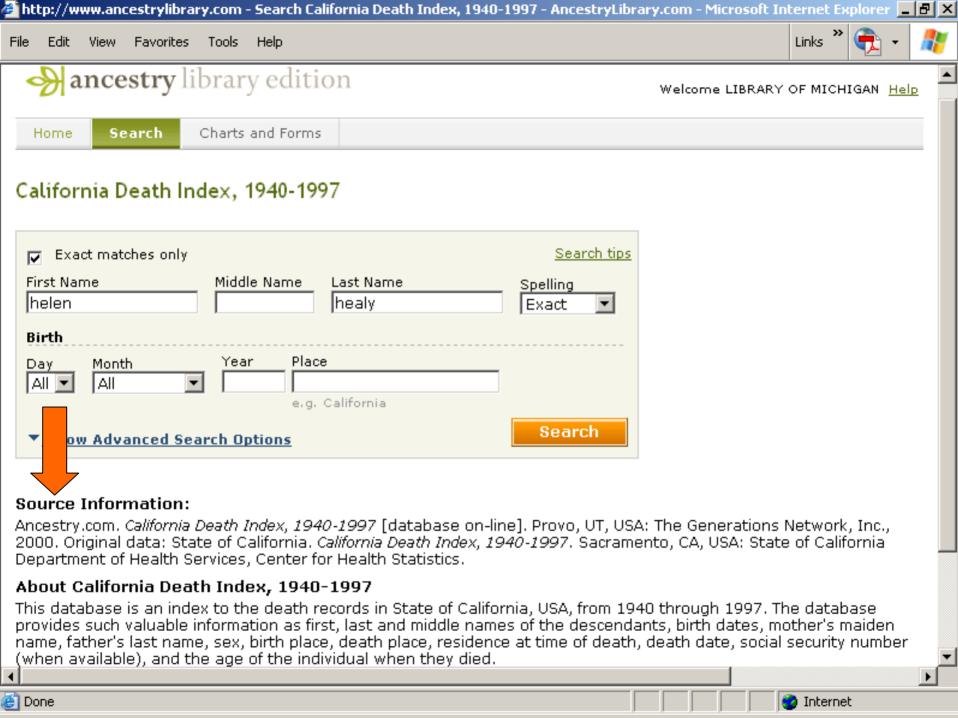
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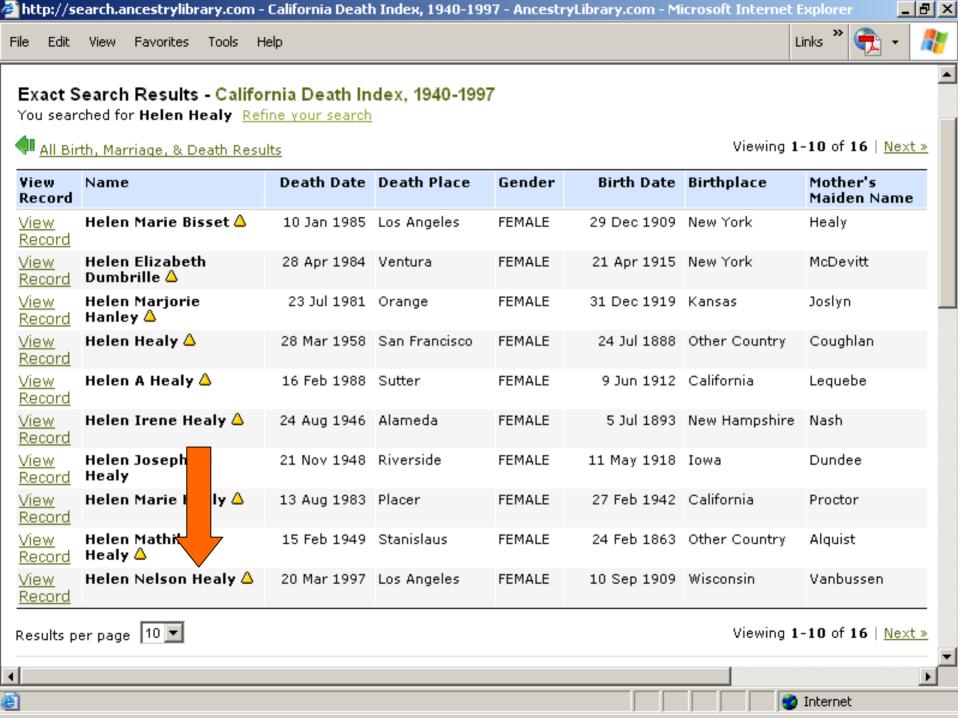


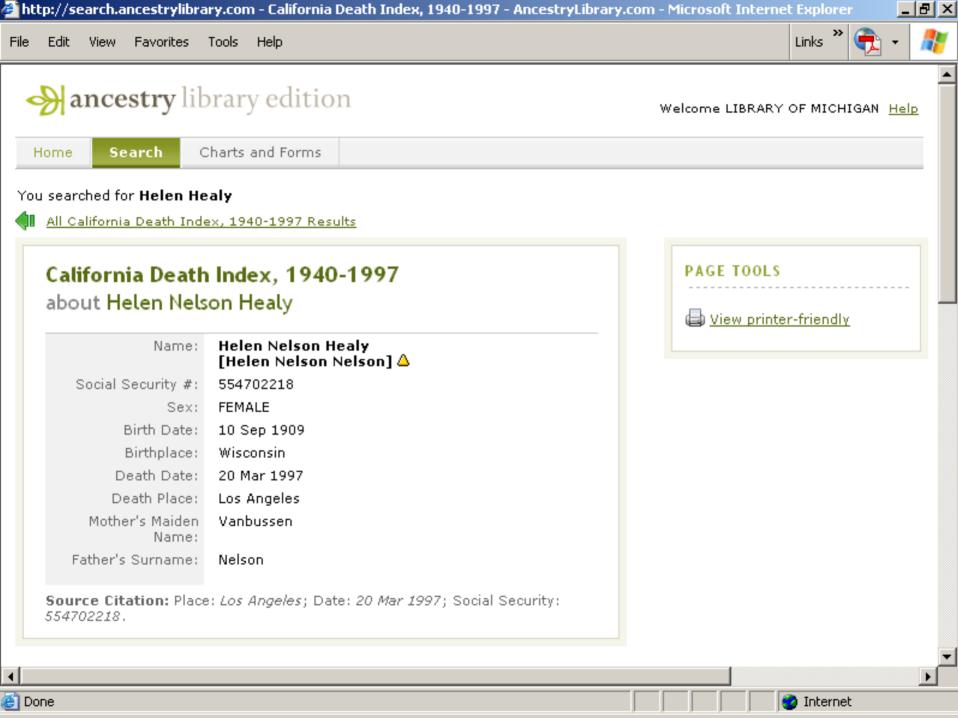


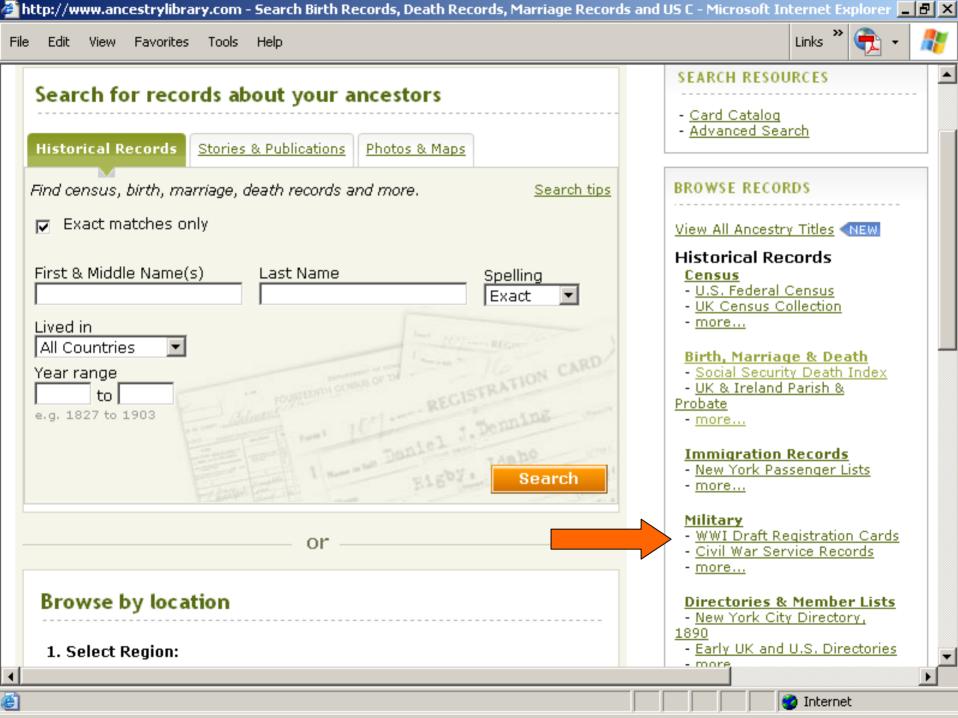


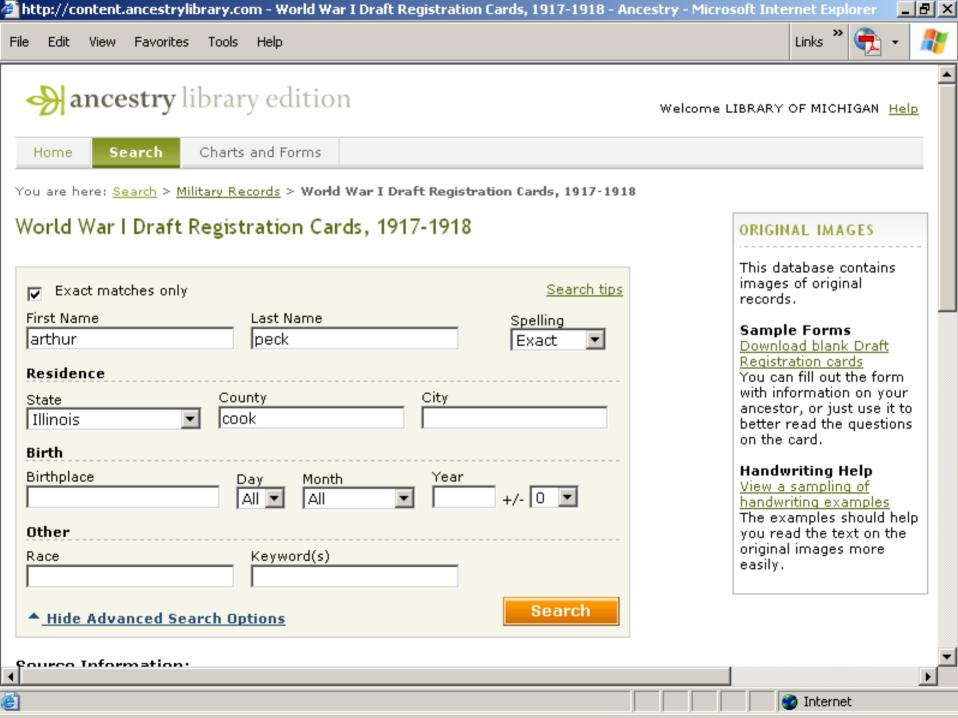


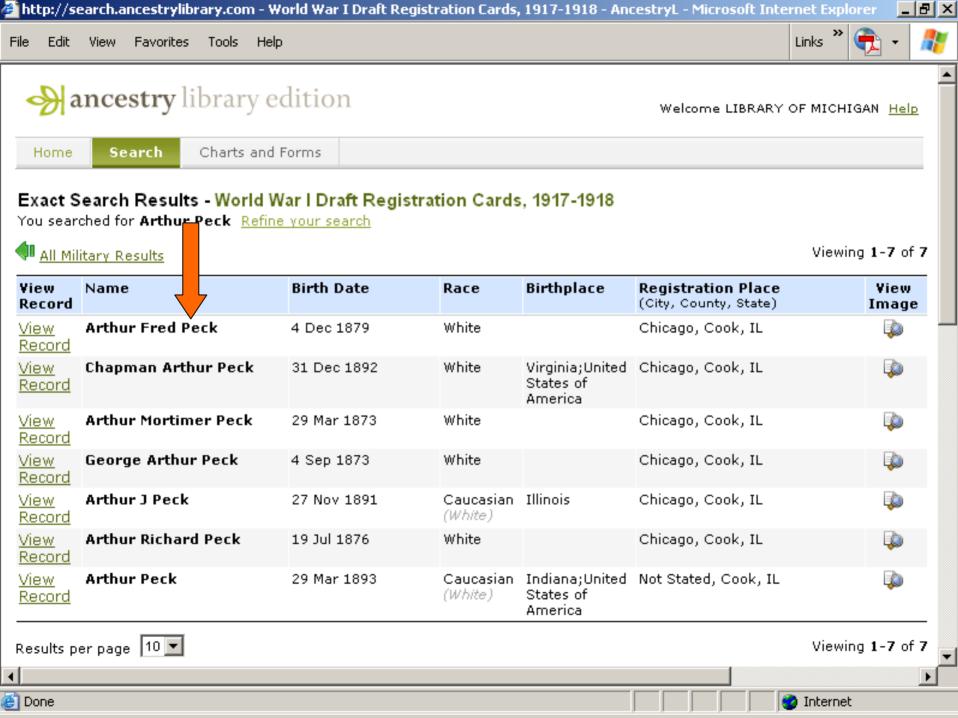


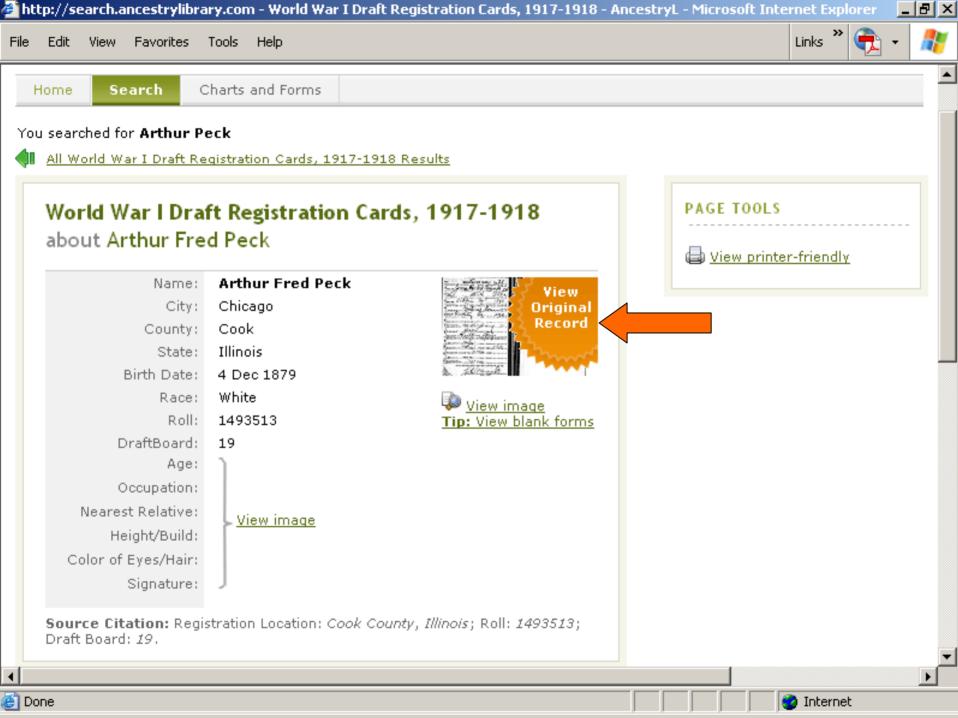












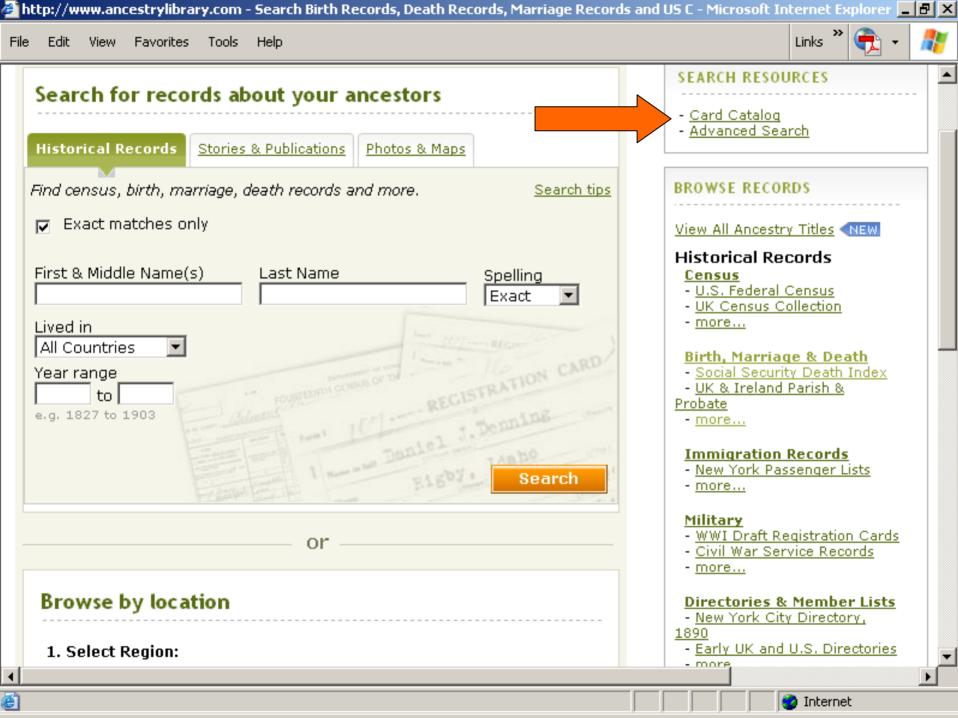


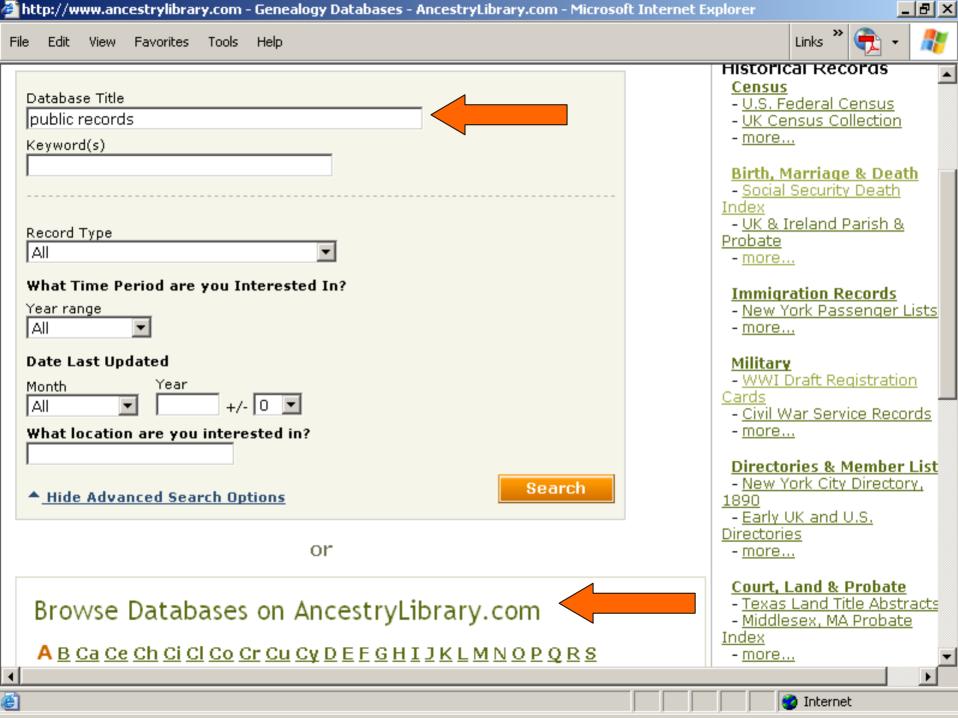
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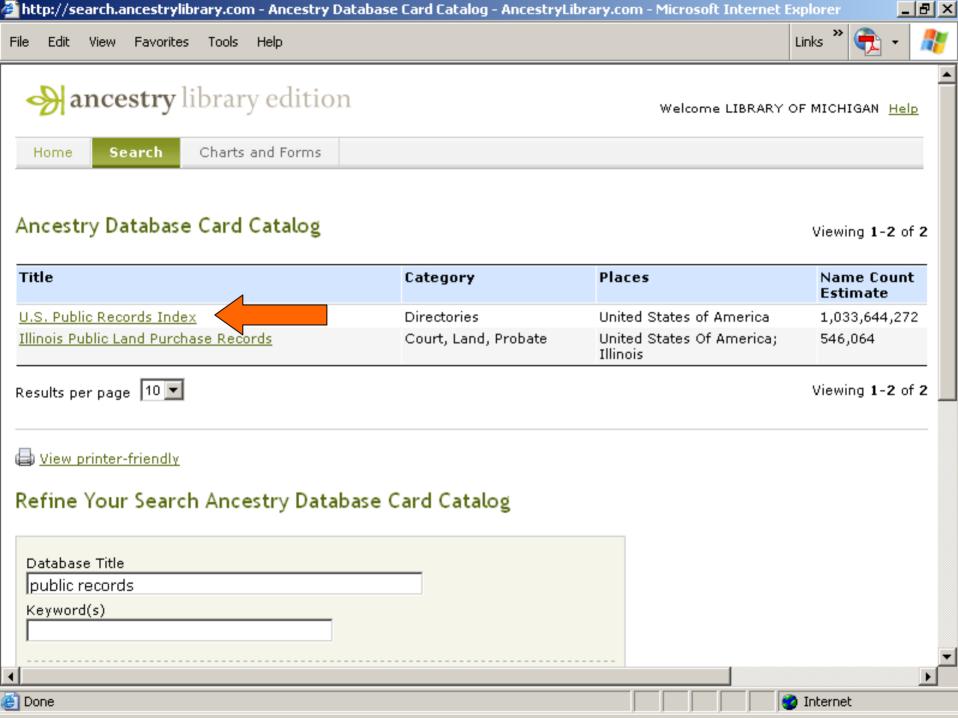


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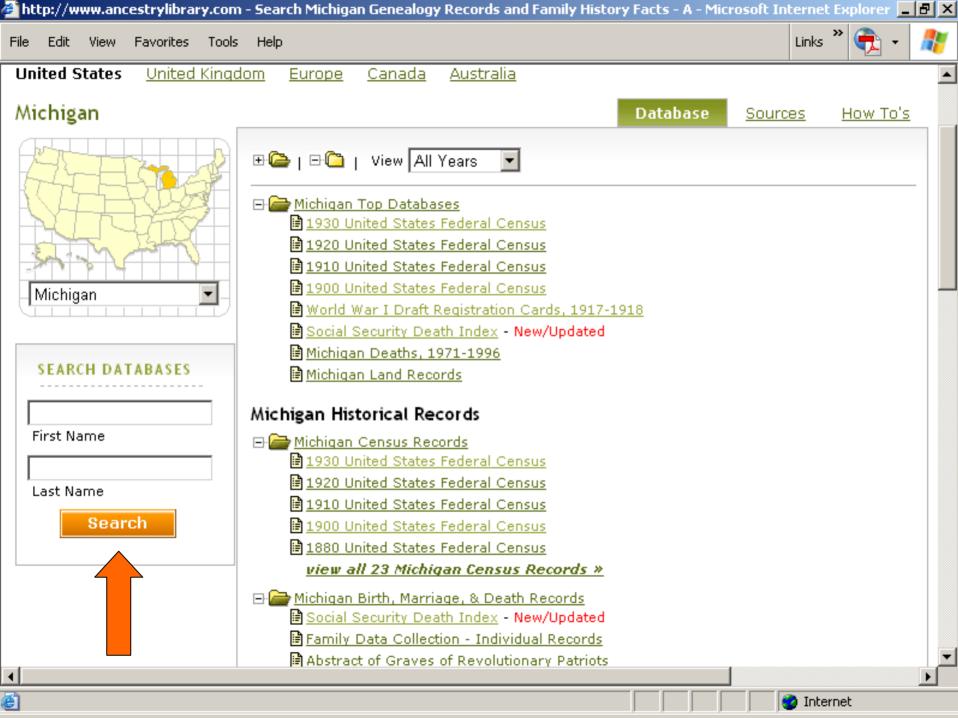
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Questions?

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